AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) A method for facsimile transmission over a packet network, comprising:

establishing a facsimile call between a sending terminal and a facsimile gateway in communication with the packet network;

receiving a first page of facsimile data from the sending terminal at the gateway;

conveying the first page of the facsimile data from the gateway over the packet network to a receiving terminal;

transmitting a confirmation signal from the gateway to the sending terminal after receiving the first page at the gateway, without having waited to receive a first confirmation packet over the network indicating that the first page was received at the receiving terminal;

responsive to transmitting the confirmation signal, receiving a second page of facsimile data from the sending terminal;

conveying the second page of the facsimile data over the packet network to the receiving terminal;

awaiting arrival at the gateway of the first confirmation packet and of a second confirmation packet over the network indicating that the second page was received at the receiving terminal; and

responsive to the first and second confirmation packets, sending a notification from the gateway to the sending terminal before terminating the facsimile call that the pages were delivered to the receiving terminal.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein establishing the facsimile call comprises establishing the call in accordance with a T.30 protocol of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU-T).

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the packet network operates in accordance with an Internet Protocol (IP).

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein establishing the facsimile call comprises initiating a real-time fax over IP connection, and wherein sending the notification comprises completing the call in a session fax mode.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein initiating the real-time fax over IP connection comprises establishing the connection in accordance with an ITU-T T.38 protocol.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 12, and comprising performing a line turnaround and sending at least one fill page from the gateway to the sending terminal when one or more of the first and second confirmation packets do not arrive at the gateway within a predetermined time limit.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein establishing the facsimile call comprises establishing the call over a telephone line between the sending terminal and the facsimile gateway.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the gateway comprises a sending gateway, and wherein conveying the first and second pages of the facsimile data comprises conveying the pages from the sending gateway over the packet network to a receiving gateway, which transmits the pages to the receiving terminal.

20-30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) Apparatus for facsimile transmission over a packet network, comprising a computer gateway, in communication with the network and configured to establish a facsimile call with a sending terminal, the gateway being adapted to receive a first page of facsimile data from the sending terminal, to convey the first page of the facsimile data over the packet network to a receiving terminal, and to transmit a confirmation signal to the sending terminal after receiving the first page without having waited to receive a first confirmation packet over the network indicating that the first page was received at the receiving terminal, and further being adapted to receive, responsive to the confirmation signal, a second page of facsimile data from the sending terminal and to convey the second page of the facsimile data over the packet network to the receiving terminal, and still further being adapted to await arrival over the network of the first confirmation packet and of a second confirmation packet indicating that the second page was received at the receiving

terminal and, responsive to the first and second confirmation packets, to send a notification to the sending terminal before terminating the facsimile call that the pages were delivered to the receiving terminal.

32. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the gateway is adapted to establish the facsimile call in accordance with a T.30 protocol of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU-T).

33. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the packet network operates in accordance with an Internet Protocol (IP).

34. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the gateway is adapted to establish the facsimile call as a real-time fax over IP connection, and to complete the call by sending the notification in a session fax mode.

35. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the gateway is adapted to establish the real-time fax over IP connection in accordance with an ITU-T T.38 protocol.

36. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the gateway is adapted to perform a line turnaround and to send at least one fill page to the sending terminal when one or more of the first and second confirmation packets do not arrive at the gateway within a predetermined time limit.

37. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the gateway is configured to establish the call over a telephone line between the sending terminal and the gateway.

38. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the gateway comprises a sending gateway, which is adapted to convey the first and second pages over the packet network to a receiving gateway, which transmits the pages to the receiving terminal.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Original) A computer software product for facsimile transmission over a packet network, comprising a computer-readable medium in which program instructions are stored, which instructions, when read by a facsimile gateway computer in communication with the packet network, cause the computer to establish

a facsimile call with a sending terminal, to receive a first page of facsimile data from the sending terminal, to convey the first page of the facsimile data over the packet network to a receiving terminal, and to transmit a confirmation signal to the sending terminal after receiving the first page without having waited to receive a first confirmation packet over the network indicating that the first page was received at the receiving terminal, and further cause the computer to receive a second page of facsimile data from the sending terminal responsive to transmitting the confirmation signal, and to convey the second page of the facsimile data over the packet network to the receiving terminal, and still further cause the computer to await arrival over the network of the first confirmation packet and of a second confirmation packet indicating that the second page was received at the receiving terminal, and responsive to the first and second confirmation packets, to send a notification to the sending terminal before terminating the facsimile call that the pages were delivered to the receiving terminal.